LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~effecting~~ affecting heart contractility in a patient comprising:

placing an electrode in communication with at least one ganglion along the sympathetic nerve chain of the patient, said at least one ganglion being associated with heart contractility;

applying an electric signal to the electrode to stimulate the at least one ganglion; and

adjusting at least one parameter of the electric signal until heart contractility has been ~~effected~~ affected.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one ganglion is selected from the group consisting of T-1 through T-4 ganglia, cervical ganglia, and combinations thereof.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the electric~~al~~ signal is applied continuously.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the electric~~al~~ signal is applied intermittently.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the application of the electric~~al~~ signal to stimulate the at least one ganglion is effective in modulating heart contractility.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the parameter is pulse frequency adjustable between about 2 Hz to about 2500 Hz.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the patient has heart failure associated with cardiomyopathy.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the patient has a heart contractility disorder.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the heart contractility disorder is cardiomyopathy.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the heart contractility disorder is hypertrophic cardiomyopathy.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the parameter is pulse width adjustable between about 10 microseconds to about 1,000 microseconds.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the parameter is pulse amplitude adjustable between about 0.1 μV to about 20 V.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising administering an amount of a pharmaceutical agent to the at least one ganglion.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the amount is determined based upon the effectiveness of the electrical stimulation of the at least one ganglion.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the administration of the therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical agent is accomplished by a catheter coupled to a pump.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the catheter is placed in communication with the at least one ganglion along the sympathetic nerve chain of the patient.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising sensing a signal related to heart contractility.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the signal is an electrical signal.

19. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the signal is a chemical signal.

20. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising regulating the electrical stimulation in response to said signal.

21. (Withdrawn) A method of effecting coagolapathies in a patient comprising:

placing an electrode in communication with at least one ganglion along the sympathetic nerve chain of the patient, said at least one ganglion being associated with a coagolapathy;

applying an electric signal to the electrode to stimulate the at least one ganglion; and

adjusting at least one parameter of the electric signal until the coagolapathy has been effected.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, further comprising administering an amount of a pharmaceutical agent to the at least one ganglion.

23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein the amount is determined based upon the effectiveness of the electrical stimulation of the at least one ganglion.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 22, wherein the administration of the therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical agent is accomplished by a catheter coupled to a pump.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein the catheter is placed in communication with the at least one ganglion along the sympathetic nerve chain of the patient.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, further comprising sensing a signal related to the coagolapathy.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the signal is an electrical signal.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the signal is a chemical signal.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, further comprising regulating the electric stimulation in response to said signal.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, wherein the electrical stimulation is effective in releasing tissue plasminogen activator.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21, wherein the electrical stimulation is effective in modulating angiotensin II.

32. (Withdrawn) A method of effecting a bronchial disorder in a patient comprising:

placing an electrode in communication with at least one ganglion along the sympathetic nerve chain of the patient, said at least one ganglion being associated with the bronchial disorder;

applying an electric signal to the electrode to stimulate the at least one ganglion; and

adjusting at least one parameter of the electric signal until the bronchial disorder has been effected.